THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The "take or pay" clause is a standard provision in the LNG supply contracts. As per the Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) signed between Petronet LNG Ltd. and M/s Ras Gas of Qatar, Petronet LNG Ltd. will have to pay at the average of the Contract Sale Price applicable during the relevant year for the difference between the Adjusted Annual Contract Quantity of LNG and the Actual Quantity of LNG drawn by Petronet LNG Ltd., for relevant period. However, quantity paid for and not drawn during the particular period, can be subsequently taken by Petronet LNG Ltd. under remaining Make-up Period of the contract.

Performance of PSUs

366. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many PSUs under his Ministry are running into losses for the last 3 years indicating the details of profit/loss, year-wise and undertaking-wise;

(b) what steps Government have taken so far to minimise the losses thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to fill up all the vacant posts of Manager, Director, Chairman in such PSUs which are lying vacant for the last 2 years so as to strengthen working of such PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) There is no PSU under the control of this Ministry which have been making loss for the last three years. However, Biecco Lawrie Limited incurred a net loss of Rs. 269.34 lakhs and Rs. 488.88 lakhs during the Financial years 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively because of considering the extraordinary expenditure, i.e. Deferred Revenue Expenditure, Provision for Gratuity (erstwhile accounted for cash basis) and Provision for Leave Encashment etc. of Rs. 303.41 lakhs and Rs. 641.04 lakhs respectively in respect of these financial years. The Company made a net profit of Rs. 44.84 lakhs during the financial year 1998-99. The Government has also given grants of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1997-98, Rs. 34.00 lakhs in 1998-99 and Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1999-2000 from National Renewal Fund to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme by Biecco Lawrie to rationalize manpower in the company.

(c) No such post is lying vacant in the company.

PDS Kerosene in Haryana

367. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the Question wai received in Hindi.